

**REPORT  
OF THE  
DISARMAMENT COMMISSION**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

OFFICIAL RECORDS: FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 42 (A/45/42)



**UNITED NATIONS**

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**UNITED NATIONS**

New York, 1990

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ISSN 0251-7892

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[Original: English]

[20 June 1990]

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly, by its resolution 44/119 C of 15 December 1989, took note, inter alia, of the annual report of the Disarmament Commission; 1/ requested the Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 2/ the first special session devoted to disarmament; and also requested the Commission to meet for a period not exceeding four weeks during 1990 and to submit a substantive report, containing specific recommendations on the items included in its agenda, to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

2. At the same session, the General Assembly adopted the following resolutions of direct relevance to the work of the Disarmament Commission:

- (a) Resolution 44/113 B, entitled "Nuclear capability of South Africa";
- (b) Resolution 44/116 C, entitled "Conventional disarmament";
- (c) Resolution 44/116 E, entitled "Objective information on military matters";
- (d) Resolution 44/116 F, entitled "Conventional disarmament";
- (e) Resolution 44/116 M, entitled "Naval armaments and disarmament";
- (f) Resolution 44/116 N, entitled "International arms transfers";
- (g) Resolution 44/116 Q, entitled "Review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament: report of the Disarmament Commission";
- (h) Resolution 44/119 C, entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission";
- (i) Resolution 44/119 H, entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade".

3. The Disarmament Commission met at United Nations Headquarters on 1 and 7 December 1989 for a brief organizational session and held two meetings (A/CN.10/PV.141-142). During that session, the Commission considered questions related to the organization of work for its 1990 substantive session and took up the question of the election of its officers, taking into account the principle of rotation of the chairmanship among the geographic regions. The Commission elected its Chairman and eight Vice-Chairmen as well as its Rapporteur. The Commission also considered and agreed on the provisional agenda for the 1990 substantive session (see para. 6 below). The Commission further decided that its next substantive session be held from 7 to 29 May 1990.

## II. ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE 1990 SESSION

4. The Disarmament Commission met at United Nations Headquarters from 7 to 29 May 1990. In the course of its session, the Commission held eight plenary meetings (A/CN.10/PV.143-150) under the chairmanship of Mr. Nana Sutresna (Indonesia). Mr. Lin Kuo-Chung, Senior Political Affairs Officer, Department for Disarmament Affairs, served as Secretary of the Disarmament Commission.

5. During the 1990 session, the Bureau of the Commission was constituted as follows:

Chairman: Mr. Nana Sutresna (Indonesia)

Vice-Chairmen: Representatives from the following States:

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Argentina                     | Togo               |
| Australia                     | Ukrainian Soviet   |
| Austria                       | Socialist Republic |
| Ecuador                       | Yugoslavia         |
| Iran (Islamic<br>Republic of) |                    |

Rapporteur: Mrs. Liberata R. Mulamula (United Republic of Tanzania)

6. At its 143rd plenary meeting, the Commission adopted its agenda, contained in document A/CN.10/L.26/Rev.1, as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Organization of work.
4. (a) Consideration of various aspects of the arms race, particularly the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament, in order to expedite negotiations aimed at effective elimination of the danger of nuclear war;  
  
(b) Consideration of the agenda items contained in section II of General Assembly resolution 33/71 H, with the aim of elaborating, within the framework of and in accordance with priorities established at the tenth special session, a general approach to negotiations on nuclear and conventional disarmament.
5. Substantive consideration of the question of South Africa's nuclear capability as requested by the General Assembly and the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid (resolutions 37/74 B, 38/181 B, 39/61 B, 40/89 B, 41/55 B, 42/34 B, 43/71 B and 44/113 B and document A/CN.10/4).
6. Review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament.

7. Naval armaments and disarmament.
8. Substantive consideration of issues related to conventional disarmament.
9. Consideration of the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade.
10. Objective information on military matters.
11. Report of the Disarmament Commission to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.
12. Other business.

7. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the annex to General Assembly resolution 44/119 C, entitled "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission", which was in conformity with the provision contained in paragraph 118 (b) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly 2/ and reads as follows:

"Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the  
Disarmament Commission

"1. Mandate

"The Disarmament Commission reaffirms its mandate contained in paragraph 118 (a) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament (hereinafter referred to as the "Final Document").

"2. Decision-making method

"The decision-making method described in paragraph 118 (b) of the Final Document should be maintained.

"3. Agenda items

"1. The Disarmament Commission could have a general agenda and a working agenda for each substantive session. The working agenda should be agreed at the Commission's organizational session.

"2. For each session, the working agenda should be limited to a maximum of four substantive items for in-depth consideration.

"3. From 1991, no subject should, in principle, be maintained on the working agenda for more than three consecutive years. At each session, the Commission should review, for possible reconsideration, any subject that had been suspended.

"4. If no agreement can be reached on a specific agenda item, the report of the Commission should contain a joint statement or a Chairman's summary of the proceedings to reflect views or positions of different delegations, particularly in the case of those agenda items to be suspended for a period of time.

"5. At its 1990 session, the Commission should make every effort to conclude all its agenda items, except the new substantive items.

#### "4. Subsidiary bodies

"1. At each annual session, the Disarmament Commission should not establish more than four subsidiary bodies for its substantive agenda items. The allocation of the agenda items to the four subsidiary bodies and the appointment of chairmen for these subsidiary bodies should be decided at the oral session of the Commission, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

"2. The chairmanship of subsidiary bodies should, in principle, be rotated each year; however, at its organizational session, the Commission may decide to extend the term of office of any chairman in the interest of effective work and the speedy conclusion of an item.

#### "5. Duration of the substantive session

"1. The Disarmament Commission should meet for a period not exceeding four weeks for in-depth deliberations on substantive items.

"2. The duration of each substantive session, in accordance with the established practice, should be flexible and could be shortened. In order to utilize efficiently the conference-servicing resources available, the Commission should decide the duration of each substantive session at its organizational session.

#### "6. Organization of work of the session

"1. Each session may have a general debate on agenda items in the plenary meetings, not exceeding three days' duration.

"2. Except in the case of new items, there should be no general exchange of views in the subsidiary bodies. The general exchange of views on new items should not exceed two meetings.

"3. Subsidiary bodies could begin their work in parallel with the general exchange of views in the plenary meetings.

"4. No more than two official meetings should be held simultaneously. This restriction, however, would not apply to informal consultations.

"5. The meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies should be provided with full meeting services.

"6. All the officers of the Commission should be elected at its organizational session.

"7. Consultations

"The Chairman of the Disarmament Commission should conduct consultations on matters relating to the work of the Commission, in particular on its working agenda, year round, especially during the meetings of the First Committee of the General Assembly."

8. At the same meeting, in pursuance of the provision contained in paragraph 5 of section 3 of that document A/CN.10/137, the Commission decided to conclude all its substantive items at the current session except for item 10, regarding objective information on military matters.

9. At the same meeting, the Commission approved its general programme of work for the session and decided to establish a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of agenda items 4, 11 and 12. With regard to sub-items 4 (a) and (b), regarding various aspects of the arms race and questions relating to both nuclear and conventional disarmament, a contact group, under the chairmanship of Mr. Sergey Martynov (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic), was established within the framework of the Committee of the Whole to consider those sub-items. The Contact Group held 10 meetings between 9 and 23 May and submitted its report to the Committee of the Whole at the third meeting of the Committee, on 24 May.

10. The Commission, at the same meeting, decided to establish Working Group I to deal with agenda item 5 on the question of South Africa's nuclear capability, and to make recommendations thereon to the Commission. Working Group I met under the chairmanship of Mr. Jai Pratap Rana (Nepal) and held eight meetings between 7 and 25 May.

11. Also at the same meeting, the Commission decided to establish Working Group II to deal with agenda item 6, on the review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, and to make recommendations thereon to the Commission. Working Group II met under the chairmanship of Mr. Roberto Garcia Moritan (Argentina) and held nine meetings between 8 and 18 May. Thereafter, the Group met under the chairmanship of Mr. Sergio de Queiroz Duarte (Brazil) and held six meetings between 21 and 25 May.

12. In addition, at the same meeting, the Chairman of the Disarmament Commission decided to follow the course of action of 1989 and to hold, under his responsibility, substantive and open-ended consultations on agenda item 7, regarding the question of naval armaments and disarmament. The Chairman delegated the conduct of the consultation to Mr. Nugroho Wisnumurti (Indonesia). Thirteen meetings were held between 9 and 25 May for the purpose of those consultations.

13. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to establish Working Group III to deal with agenda item 8, on the question of conventional disarmament, and to make recommendations thereon to the Commission. Working Group III met under the chairmanship of Mr. Skjold G. Mellbin (Denmark) and held 16 meetings between 8 and 29 May.

14. Also at the same meeting, the Commission decided to establish Working Group IV to deal with agenda item 9, on the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade, and to make recommendations thereon to the Commission. Working Group IV met under the chairmanship of Mr. Emeka Ayo Azikiwe (Nigeria) and held 11 meetings between 9 and 24 May.

15. The Commission also decided, at the same meeting, to establish a consultation group to deal with agenda item 10, on the question of objective information on military matters, for a preliminary consideration of the subject. The consultation group met under the chairmanship of Mr. Peter Hohenfellner (Austria) and held eight meetings between 10 and 24 May.

16. On 7 and 8 May, the Disarmament Commission held a general exchange of views on all agenda items (A/CN.10/PV.143-146).

17. At its second, third and fourth meetings, on 21, 24 and 29 May, the Committee of the Whole considered the question of the working agenda for the 1991 session of the Commission. Various views were expressed.

18. At its 149th and 150th meetings, on 29 May, the Disarmament Commission considered the reports of Working Groups I, II, III and IV on agenda items 5, 6, 8 and 9 respectively; the report of the Consultation Group on agenda item 10; and the report of the Committee of the Whole on agenda item 4. The Chairman of the Commission presented his report on agenda item 7 to the Commission. The reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and the recommendations contained therein, as well as the report of the Chairman on agenda item 7, are included in section IV of the present report.

19. In accordance with past practice of the Disarmament Commission, some non-governmental organizations attended the plenary meetings as well as the meetings of the Committee of the Whole.

### III. DOCUMENTATION

#### A. Reports and other documents submitted by the Secretary-General

20. Pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 44/119 C, the Secretary-General, by a note dated 3 February 1990, transmitted to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament 3/ together with all the official records of the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters (A/CN.10/136).

21. Pursuant to paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 44/113 B, the Secretary-General submitted to the Disarmament Commission a preliminary report entitled "Investigation of recent reports that collaboration between Israel and South Africa has resulted in the development by South Africa of a nuclear-tipped missile" (A/CN.10/138).

22. A document entitled "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission" (A/CN.10/137) was transmitted to the Commission by the Secretary-General.

#### B. Other documents, including documents submitted by Member States

23. In the course of the Commission's work, the documents listed below, dealing with substantive questions, were submitted.

24. A working paper entitled "Naval armaments and disarmament: promoting global progress in the field of disarmament and confidence- and security-building measures at sea" (A/CN.10/139) was submitted by Finland, Indonesia and Sweden.

25. A working paper entitled "Objective information on military matters" (A/CN.10/140) was submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

26. A working paper entitled "Naval armaments and disarmament: a protocol on sea mines" (A/CN.10/141) was submitted by Sweden.

27. A working paper entitled "Objective information on military matters: objectives, principles and mechanisms of openness in the military sphere" (A/CN.10/142) was submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

### IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

28. At its 150th plenary meeting, on 29 May, the Disarmament Commission adopted by consensus the reports of its subsidiary bodies and the recommendations contained therein regarding agenda items 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10. The Commission agreed to submit the texts of those reports, reproduced below, to the General Assembly. The report of the Chairman on item 7 is endorsed by all participants in his consultations. The delegation of the United States of America did not participate in the consultations and is not in any way associated with that report.

29. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted, as a whole, its report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

30. The report of the Committee of the Whole on agenda item 4 reads as follows:

"Report of the Committee of the Whole on agenda item 4 regarding various aspects of the arms race, particularly the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament, as well as a general approach to negotiations on nuclear and conventional disarmament"

"1. At its 143rd meeting, on 7 May, the Disarmament Commission decided that, as at previous sessions, agenda item 4 should be dealt with in the framework of the Committee of the Whole by a Contact Group, open to all delegations. Mr. Sergei Martynov (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) was appointed Chairman of the Contact Group. Ms. Jenifer Mackby of the Department for Disarmament Affairs served as Secretary of the Group.

"2. The Contact Group held 10 meetings between 9 and 23 May.

"3. The Contact Group continued the work on agenda item 4 on the basis of the compilation of proposals for recommendations on that item contained in annex I to the report of the Commission to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session 1/ with the objective of arriving at agreement on them, in order to comply with the decision of the Commission of 7 May 1990 to make every effort to conclude all its agenda items, except the new substantive item.

"4. In the course of the work at the 1990 session, the Contact Group updated some of the texts under consideration and made some progress towards narrowing areas of disagreement.

"5. The Contact Group concluded the consideration of the item with the following statement:

'Agenda item 4 has been considered by the Commission since 1979. Since 1983, the work centred on elaborating a set of recommendations on that item. The results of prolonged and earnest deliberations are reflected in the "Compilation of proposals for recommendations on agenda item 4", which is annexed to the present report. Whereas a number of recommendations (Nos. 1 and 2; in section I, Nos. 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 17, 18, 23 and 24; and in section II, the introductory sentence and Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5, which appear without brackets) on important subjects were generally acceptable, without prejudice to the right of delegations to review them as appropriate, agreement on other no less important recommendations and, consequently, on a complete set of recommendations eluded the Contact Group.

'The Contact Group is of the view that the appropriate course of action in respect of the subject of the current item 4 of the agenda should be considered by the Disarmament Commission.'"

31. The report of Working Group I on agenda item 5 reads as follows:

"Report of Working Group I on agenda item 5

"1. The General Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, adopted resolution 44/113 B of 15 December 1989, by which it, inter alia, requested the Disarmament Commission to consider once again as a matter of priority during its substantive session in 1990 South Africa's nuclear capability, taking into account, inter alia, the findings of the report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on South Africa's nuclear capability.

"2. The Disarmament Commission, at its 143rd meeting, on 7 May 1990, decided to establish Working Group I to deal with agenda item 5 regarding the question of South Africa's nuclear capability and to make recommendations thereon to the Commission, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/113 B.

"3. In connection with its work, the Working Group had before it the following documents:

"(a) Report of the Secretary-General on South Africa's plan and capability in the nuclear field (A/35/402 and Corr.1);

"(b) Report of the United Nations Seminar on Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa;

"(c) Report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on South Africa's nuclear capability (A/39/470);

"(d) Preliminary report of the Secretary-General on the investigation of recent reports that collaboration between Israel and South Africa has resulted in the development by South Africa of a nuclear-tipped missile (A/CN.10/138);

"(e) Conclusions and recommendations on item 5: Working paper submitted by the Chairman of Working Group I (A/CN.10/1990/WG.I/CRP.2).

"4. The Working Group met under the chairmanship of Ambassador Jai Pratap Rana (Nepal) and held eight meetings between 7 and 25 May 1990. The Working Group, through the Chairman, also undertook informal consultations during this period. Mr. Sammy Kum Buo of the Department for Disarmament Affairs served as Secretary of the Working Group.

"5. At its first meeting, on 7 May, the Working Group decided to undertake informal open-ended consultations, through the Chairman, with a view to the elaboration of a working paper that could lend itself to consensus acceptance in the Group. In conducting the informal consultations, the Chairman, at his request, was assisted by Mr. Raoul Delcorde (Belgium), and Mr. Nelson Dumevi (Ghana), who served as co-ordinators.

"6. At the eighth meeting of the Working Group on 25 May 1990, the Chairman submitted a working paper entitled 'Conclusions and recommendations on item 5', prepared on the basis of open-ended and intensive informal consultations (A/CN.10/1990/WG.1/CRP.2).

"7. At the same meeting, the Working Group, in accordance with the decision of the Disarmament Commission made at its 143rd plenary meeting on 7 May, decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 5 and adopted by consensus the conclusions and recommendations on the subject, as follows:

'NUCLEAR CAPABILITY OF SOUTH AFRICA:  
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

'1. Guided by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and with reference to the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in South Africa adopted by consensus at the sixteenth special session of the General Assembly (resolution S-16/1, annex), the Commission reiterates its condemnation of the continuation of the policy and practice of apartheid in South Africa which is a crime against the conscience and dignity of mankind. While noting that certain positive developments are now taking place in South Africa, the Commission stresses that the apartheid system and its institutionalized pillars still remain in place. In reaffirming the right of all peoples to self-determination, the Commission supports all those in South Africa who strive for the elimination of apartheid and the building of a non-racial and democratic society in that country.

'2. The Commission recalls Security Council resolution 418 (1977) which, inter alia, expressed the Council's grave concern that South Africa was, at that time, at the threshold of producing nuclear weapons. The use of its nuclear capability by South Africa for nuclear weapon purposes would heighten tension and increase the threat to regional as well as international peace and security.

'3. The Commission further recalls that the Security Council had, by its resolution 418 (1977), determined that the acquisition by South Africa of arms and related matériel constituted a threat to the maintenance of international peace and security and had decided that all States shall cease forthwith any provision to South Africa of arms and related matériel.

'4. The issue of South Africa's nuclear capability has been brought to international attention by General Assembly resolution 34/76 B of 11 December 1979 and included in the agenda of the Disarmament Commission since its first substantive session in 1979 at the request of the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid (A/CN.10/4), following the conclusions of the United Nations Seminar on Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa, held at London in February 1979.

'5. In consideration of the item the Commission reaffirms with regard to South Africa the concern already expressed in paragraph 12 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly (General Assembly resolution S-10/2). In this respect, the Commission strongly recommends that the General Assembly renew its call upon all States to adhere strictly to the relevant decisions of the Security Council.

'6. The proliferation of nuclear weapons to any country is a matter of serious concern to the world. South Africa's introduction of nuclear weapons to the African continent, and particularly in such a volatile region as southern Africa, not only would be a severe blow to world-wide efforts at non-proliferation but also upset many years' efforts to spare the African continent from the nuclear-arms race in accordance with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa.

'7. The Commission notes the 1977 reports of the discovery of preparations for a nuclear-weapons-test site in the Kalahari desert and reports about the 22 September 1979 event in the South Atlantic. These reports and the report of the Secretary-General on South Africa's plan and capability in the nuclear field (A/35/401 and Corr.1) and the report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (A/39/470) have caused legitimate and particular concern to the African States and the international community, in general.

'8. The Commission recommends that the General Assembly bring to the Security Council's attention the grave consequences of the development of any sort of nuclear weapons capability by South Africa and its implications for the security of African States, the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and the collective decision of the African States regarding the denuclearization of Africa, which has been endorsed by the General Assembly.

'9. The Commission considers it at variance with the development of friendly relations and co-operation among States to assist South Africa in the development of a nuclear-weapon programme enabling the régime to pursue a policy of destabilization against the countries of the African continent. In this respect, the Commission underscores Security Council resolution 591 (1986), in which the Council requested all States to refrain from any collaboration with South Africa in the nuclear field which will contribute to the development and manufacture by South Africa of nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices.

'10. All States and international organizations have the duty and responsibility to contribute to the efforts towards the elimination of apartheid. In addition, Member States should fully implement Security Council resolution 418 (1977), unanimously adopted by the Security Council, in which, inter alia, the Council called upon Member States to refrain from any co-operation with South Africa in the development and manufacture of nuclear weapons. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the international community to ensure that effective and concrete measures are taken to stop the development of its nuclear-weapons capability. To this end, the Disarmament Commission recommends that:

'(a) States should cease forthwith all collaboration with South Africa in the military and nuclear field which may contribute, directly or indirectly, to the development of its nuclear-weapons capability.

'(b) In the light of Security Council resolutions 418 (1977), 558 (1984) and 591 (1986), the Disarmament Commission recommends that the General Assembly should urge all States to observe scrupulously their obligations concerning the arms embargo against South Africa. The Security Council should continue to monitor closely the implementation of the arms embargo against South Africa in all its aspects in order to prevent any form of assistance to the development of its nuclear-weapons capability and the Secretary-General should report thereon periodically to the General Assembly.

'(c) All States should consider and respect the continent of Africa as a nuclear-weapon-free zone, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2033 (XX) of 3 December 1965, in which the Assembly endorsed the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa adopted in 1964 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity. To this end, the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to offer such assistance as OAU may require to advance the realization of these objectives.

'(d) The Commission would consider it an important step if South Africa accedes to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and calls upon South Africa to place all its nuclear facilities and installations under fullscope IAEA safeguards. To this end, the Commission recommends that the General Assembly should request IAEA to report to the Assembly on its implementation.

'(e) South Africa should practise transparency and openness in its military affairs in order to allow for full assessment of its activities in the military and nuclear field by the international community and in particular by its neighbouring States.

'(f) The Commission recommends further that the Secretary-General should follow more closely South Africa's evolution in the nuclear field and report regularly to the General Assembly on the implementation of these recommendations and on all new developments which would require the attention of the international community.'"

32. The report of Working Group II on agenda item 6 reads as follows:

"Report of Working Group II on agenda item 6

"1. By its resolution 44/116 Q of 15 December 1989, the General Assembly, inter alia, requested the Disarmament Commission to continue its consideration of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament as a matter of priority at its next substantive session, in 1990, with a view to the elaboration of concrete recommendations and proposals, as appropriate, taking into account, inter alia, the views and suggestions of Member States as well as the documents on the subject listed in the resolution; and to submit its report on the subject, including findings, recommendations and proposals, as appropriate, to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

"2. The Disarmament Commission, at its 143rd meeting, on 7 May 1990, decided to establish Working Group II to deal with agenda item 6 regarding the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/116 Q.

"3. In connection with its work, the Working Group had before it the following documents:

"(a) Replies of Member States to the Secretary-General regarding the review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament (A/CN.10/69 and Add.1-8, and A/CN.10/71);

"(b) Working paper submitted by China (A/CN.10/79);

"(c) Conference room paper entitled 'Findings, recommendations and proposals (Chairman's draft)' (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.1);

"(d) Working paper on topic IV, submitted by Mexico (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.2);

"(e) Statement on topic IV, submitted by India (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.3);

"(f) Statement on topics I to III, submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.4);

"(g) Statement on topic IV, submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.5);

"(h) Working paper entitled 'Role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament', submitted by Canada (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.6);

"(i) Statement on the role of the United Nations in disarmament, submitted by the United States of America (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.7);

"(j) Comments on the paper entitled 'Findings, recommendations and proposals', submitted by the United States of America (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.8);

"(k) Working paper containing proposals for recommendations on topic IV, submitted by the Federal Republic of Germany (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.9);

"(l) Views and suggestions on topics IV and VI, submitted by Japan (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.10);

"(m) Some suggestions submitted by Australia (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.11);

"(n) Statement on topic IV.1, submitted by the German Democratic Republic (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.12);

"(o) Proposal on topics I and II, submitted by the German Democratic Republic (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.13);

"(p) Proposals submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.14);

"(q) Working paper containing proposals for recommendations on topics I to III, submitted by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.15);

"(r) Working paper containing proposals for recommendations on topic IV, submitted by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.16);

"(s) Working paper entitled 'Review of the role of the United Nations in disarmament', submitted by Pakistan (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.17);

"(t) Views and suggestions on topic IV, submitted by Norway (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.18);

"(u) Working paper submitted by India and Yugoslavia (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.19);

"(v) Working paper entitled 'Role of the Secretary-General in the field of disarmament', submitted by Uruguay (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.20);

"(w) Working paper containing a proposal on topic IV.3.a, 'World Disarmament Campaign', submitted by Bulgaria (A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.21);

"(x) Working paper submitted by Czechoslovakia, Mongolia, Poland and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/CN.10/94);

"(y) Working paper submitted by the Federal Republic of Germany (A/CN.10/99);

"(z) Working paper submitted by the United States of America (A/CN.10/1987/WG.II/CRP.1);

"(aa) Working paper on items I, II and III submitted by Argentina (A/CN.10/1987/WG.II/CRP.2);

"(bb) Suggestions to Working Paper 1, submitted by the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/CN.10/1987/WG.II/CRP.3);

"(cc) Working paper entitled 'Review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament' (A/CN.10/1987/WG.II/CRP.1), annexed to the 1987 report of the Disarmament Commission (A/42/42, annex II);

"(dd) Working paper submitted by Czechoslovakia, Mongolia, Poland and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/CN.10/108 and Corr.1);

"(ee) Working paper submitted by the Federal Republic of Germany on behalf of the twelve States members of the European Community (A/CN.10/112);

"(ff) Document entitled 'Review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament' (A/CN.10/1988/CRP.6 and Corr.1 and 2), annexed to the special report of the Disarmament Commission submitted to the General Assembly at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament (A/S-15/3, annex III);

"(gg) Report of Working Group III on the agenda items entitled 'Consideration of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and of the effectiveness of the disarmament machinery' and 'United Nations information and educational activities in the field of disarmament, including measures to mobilize world public opinion in favour of disarmament', submitted to the Committee of the Whole at the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (A/S-15/AC.1/20 and Corr.1);

"(hh) Report of the Chairman of Working Group III on the agenda items entitled 'Consideration of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and of the effectiveness of the disarmament machinery' and 'United Nations information and educational activities in the field of disarmament, including measures to mobilize world public opinion in favour of disarmament', submitted to the Committee of the Whole at the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (A/S-15/AC.1/21);

"(ii) Chairman's working paper submitted by the Chairman of Working Group III to the Committee of the Whole at the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament on the agenda items entitled: 'Consideration of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and of the effectiveness of the disarmament machinery' and 'United Nations information and educational activities in the field of disarmament, including measures to mobilize world public opinion in favour of disarmament' (A/S-15/AC.1/WG.III/CRP.2/Rev.1);

"(jj) Working paper submitted by Hungary (A/CN.10/120);

"(kk) Working paper submitted by Czechoslovakia, Poland and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/CN.10/127);

"(ll) Documents entitled 'Review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament' (A/CN.10/WG.II/CRP.1 and Add.1 to CRP.4)."

"4. The Working Group met under the chairmanship of Ambassador Roberto García-Moritan (Argentina) and held nine meetings between 8 and 18 May 1990. At the 9th meeting, on 18 May, the Chairman of the Working Group appointed Ambassador Sergio de Queiroz Duarte (Brazil) as Friend of the Chair to assist him. Thereafter, the Working Group met under the chairmanship of Ambassador de Queiroz Duarte and held six meetings between 21 and 25 May 1990. The Working Group also conducted informal consultations through the Chairmen during this period. Ms. Agnès Marcaillou of the Department for Disarmament Affairs served as Secretary of the Working Group.

"5. At its first meeting on 8 May, the Working Group decided that the 1989 Chairman's working paper and the Proposals and Amendments to it, as contained in annexes III and IV to the report of the Disarmament Commission at its 1989 session 1/ should constitute the basic documents for consideration of the subject.

"6. In accordance with the decision of the Disarmament Commission made at its 143rd plenary meeting, on 7 May, the Working Group, at its 15th meeting, on 25 May, decided to conclude the consideration of the item and adopted the following text:

'Review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament

'1. The primary purpose of the United Nations is to maintain international peace and security. The United Nations constitutes the only universal forum where all Member States contribute to the process of disarmament. Its role and responsibilities in this field are exercised

through institutional arrangements which Member States should utilize to fullest possible extent. In this connection, the effectiveness of the Organization in the field of disarmament should be strengthened and the work of its bodies improved.

'2. All States Members of the United Nations are committed to the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and therefore must strictly observe its principles. They must also observe other relevant and generally accepted principles of international law relating to the maintenance of international peace and security. Furthermore, genuine and lasting peace should be sought through their observance and the speedy conclusion of concrete disarmament measures leading to general and complete disarmament under effective international control. Multilateral agreements on measures of disarmament play an important role in contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security.

'3. All the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations. While disarmament is the responsibility of all States, the nuclear-weapon States, in particular those among them which possess the most important nuclear arsenals, have a special responsibility for nuclear disarmament and, together with other militarily significant States, for halting and reversing the arms race. It was noted that in discharge of this responsibility important initial steps had been taken leading in this direction, and that further negotiations among some of those States were in progress.

'4. The United Nations should support and facilitate all disarmament efforts - unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral - and be kept duly informed, through the General Assembly or any other appropriate United Nations channel reaching all Members of the Organization, of developments in disarmament efforts outside its aegis, without prejudice to the progress of negotiations.

'5. All States should give due account and consideration to recommendations by the United Nations, including the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament, which was adopted by consensus, and act in accordance with the obligations they have assumed. All States have the right and the duty to be concerned with and to contribute to efforts in the field of disarmament as stipulated in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly.

'6. Disarmament, development, relaxation of international tension, respect for the right to self-determination and national independence, non-interference in internal affairs of States, respect for human rights, the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the Charter and the strengthening of international peace and security are related to each other. Progress in any of these spheres has a beneficial effect on all of them; in turn, failure in one sphere can have negative effects on the others.

'7. The improvement in the international security situation facilitates sustained progress in the field of disarmament. Equally, the conclusion of concrete disarmament agreements strengthens international

peace and security. War, in particular nuclear war, must be prevented. Disarmament should be pursued in the context of strengthening international peace and security, in compliance with the Charter of the United Nations.

'8. The Conference on Disarmament has a unique character and importance as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating body, and it is important that it continue to discharge its substantive responsibilities. The Conference on Disarmament has a unique relationship with the United Nations. The Commission affirms that the work of the Conference is of great relevance to the Members of the United Nations. Accordingly, the General Assembly welcomes the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to improve its performance so as better to fulfil its responsibilities, implement its decisions at the earliest opportunity, to consider further questions related to its improved and effective functioning, to consider the question of the expansion of its membership, as well as the facilitation of the participation of States not members of the Conference.

'9. The Security Council, having regard to its special status and responsibilities pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Charter, should continue to ensure the effectiveness of its central role with regard to the maintenance of international peace and security, keeping in mind the interrelationship existing between disarmament, international peace and security.

'10. The General Assembly constitutes the main deliberative organ of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and should continue to promote disarmament and to facilitate the achievement of disarmament agreements among States, by the following means:

'(a) Special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament have contributed to strengthening international co-operation in the field of disarmament. Special sessions should be convened as appropriate to consider relevant issues such as to review and assess the results of the efforts of Member States and of the United Nations in promoting deliberations and negotiations on all relevant issues of disarmament, and to endeavour to provide recommendations and guidance regarding measures in the field of disarmament;

'(b) The First Committee of the General Assembly should continue to serve as its Main Committee dealing with disarmament and related international security questions. The First Committee should make the necessary improvements in its methods and procedures of work with a view to increasing its efficiency. In this regard, each succeeding chairman should continue to hold consultations with a view to refining further the practices and procedures of the Committee. To this end, the First Committee should take into account, *inter alia*, the recommendations contained in General Assembly resolution 42/42 N of 30 November 1987 and should continue to endeavour to expand areas of consensus. Bearing in mind the increasing importance that the international community attaches to the items on the agenda of the Conference on Disarmament, appropriate attention should be given to the consideration of the reports of the Conference. The First Committee should devote a portion of its work

programme to consider, under the appropriate agenda items, the annual report of the Conference;

'(c) The Disarmament Commission, as the specialized deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery, allows for in-depth deliberations leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on specific disarmament issues. In order to improve the efficiency of its work, it should fully implement the decision concerning the ways and means to enhance its functioning. Such an undertaking would enable it to continue to play a constructive role within the United Nations disarmament machinery.

'11. In the exercise of his role as envisaged in the Charter, the Secretary-General facilitates the discharge of the responsibilities of the United Nations regarding the maintenance of international peace and security. All States should give the Secretary-General maximum support to enable him to discharge, as effectively as possible, his responsibilities under the Charter. In the exercise of his role, the Secretary-General should be assisted by an adequately staffed and funded Department for Disarmament Affairs. The resources accorded to the Department should be commensurate with the requirements of its mandated tasks in so far as the budgetary restraints of the United Nations permit. The role of the Department for Disarmament Affairs in assisting the Secretary-General in his co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations and relevant specialized agencies in the field of disarmament should be strengthened. When agreed by the parties, the Secretary-General of the United Nations should continue to serve as depositary of the legal instruments of multilateral disarmament agreements.

'12. In light of the modifications to the functioning of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters introduced by the Secretary-General in 1989, including the changing of its title, the Advisory Board should continue to play a useful role, particularly in its dual capacity as the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, as well as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research; it could benefit from wider contacts with prominent persons and institutions possessing expertise relevant to the Board's work.

'13. In accordance with the statute and the autonomous status of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, its work should continue to be independent-research-oriented, of a high academic standard and of practical value. The Institute should strengthen its co-operation with national and regional research institutes in the field of disarmament. More financial contributions would ensure a greater viability and the development of the Institute.

'14. The Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean is a preparatory body tasked with the completion of organizational and substantive issues related to the convening of a Conference in Colombo which would seek to implement the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. It is the view of those voting in favour of General Assembly resolution 44/120

that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean should continue to fulfil its mandate.

'15. Without prejudice to the outcome of its ongoing assessment, the World Disarmament Campaign, as a global information programme, should continue its contributions by informing, educating, and generating public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms limitation and disarmament in a balanced, factual and objective manner. Member States and other entities are encouraged to broaden the financial base of support of the Campaign with further voluntary contributions as well as to co-operate by other means so as to increase its effectiveness. The Commission recommends that all Member States should continue to mark the observance of Disarmament Week, which was proclaimed by the General Assembly at its first special session devoted to disarmament, as a week devoted to fostering the objectives of disarmament. It notes that this annual observance would continue to play an important role in promoting the objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign.

'16. The regional centres for peace and disarmament should continue to contribute to the promotion of disarmament, mutual confidence, peace and security. In addition, the activities of these centres would further enhance the objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign. In order to ensure the effective functioning and viability of the regional centres, the Disarmament Commission encourages Member States as well as other entities to make contributions to these centres.

'17. The United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme contributes usefully to the development of greater expertise in disarmament issues in Member States. Consequently, the Programme should be continued in accordance with guidelines approved by the General Assembly at its thirty-third and fortieth sessions, duly taking into account in the yearly selection of fellows, the principle of adequate representation of developing countries and the need for rotation among States.'"

33. The report of the Chairman on agenda item 7 reads as follows:

"Report of the Chairman

"1. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly by resolution 44/116 M of 15 December 1989, entitled 'Naval armaments and disarmament', inter alia, requested the Disarmament Commission to continue, at its forthcoming session in 1990, the substantive consideration of the question and to report on its deliberations and recommendations to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

"2. In its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the following documents:

"(a) Report of the Secretary-General containing the study on the naval arms race (A/40/535);

"(b) Study on the naval arms race - replies received from Governments (Argentina, Bulgaria, China, Indonesia, Lesotho, Mexico and Sweden - A/CN.10/77; Australia and Norway - Add.1; Gabon - Add.2; Denmark, Netherlands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - Add.3);

"(c) Working paper submitted by China (A/CN.10/78);

"(d) Working paper submitted by Bulgaria, German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/80);

"(e) Chairman's paper on agenda item 8 (A/CN.10/83);

"(f) Working paper submitted by Finland (A/CN.10/90/Rev.1);

"(g) Working paper submitted by Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/92);

"(h) Working paper submitted by Sweden (A/CN.10/101/Rev.1);

"(i) Chairman's paper on agenda item 8 (A/CN.10/102);

"(j) Working paper submitted by Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/109);

"(k) Chairman's paper on agenda item 8 (A/CN.10/113);

"(l) Working paper submitted by Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/119);

"(m) Working paper submitted by Sweden (A/CN.10/121);

"(n) Working paper submitted by Sweden (A/CN.10/129);

"(o) Working paper submitted by Finland, Indonesia and Sweden (A/CN.10/130);

"(p) Chairman's paper on agenda item 8 (A/CN.10/134);

"(q) Working paper submitted by Finland, Indonesia and Sweden (A/CN.10/139);

"(r) Working paper submitted by Sweden (A/CN.10/141).

"3. At the 143rd plenary meeting, on 7 May, the Chairman of the Disarmament Commission decided to follow last year's course of action and hold, under his responsibility, substantive and open-ended consultations on the subject. Pursuant to that decision, the Chairman delegated the actual conduct of the substantive and open-ended consultations to a 'friend of the Chairman', in casu, the representative of Indonesia, Ambassador Nugroho Wisnumurti. The Consultation Group held 13 meetings on the item. Mr. Lin Kuo-Chung of the Department for Disarmament Affairs served as Secretary of the Consultation Group and Ms. Florence Lee from the same Department acted as Deputy Secretary.

"4. The meetings in the Consultation Group resulted in a number of substantive findings and recommendations on the subject. These are contained in a working paper by the Chairman, annex II to the report of the Commission, which met the approval of all delegations participating in the substantive consultations. As in the past, the delegation of the United States of America did not participate in the consultations and is not in any way associated with their findings and recommendations.

"5. In accordance with the decision of the Disarmament Commission made at its 143rd plenary meeting on 7 May 1990, it was understood that the consideration of the item was concluded."

34. The report of Working Group III on agenda item 8 reads as follows:

"Report of the Working Group on agenda item 8

"1. The General Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, adopted resolution 44/116 C of 15 December 1989 in which, inter alia, it requested the Disarmament Commission to consider further, at its 1990 substantive session, issues related to conventional disarmament. By resolution 44/116 F, the General Assembly, inter alia, requested the Disarmament Commission to continue at its 1990 session the substantive consideration of issues related to conventional disarmament and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session with a view to facilitating possible measures in the field of conventional arms reduction and disarmament. By resolution 44/116 N the General Assembly, inter alia, requested the Disarmament Commission to continue its deliberation on the issue of international arms transfers contained in the above-mentioned resolution during its 1990 session under the item of conventional disarmament.

"2. The Disarmament Commission, at its 143rd meeting, on 7 May 1990, decided to establish Working Group III to deal with agenda item 8 regarding conventional disarmament, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 44/116 C, 44/116 F and 44/116 N.

"3. In connection with its work, the Working Group had before it the following working papers:

"(a) Working paper submitted by Denmark (A/CN.10/88);

"(b) Working paper submitted by China (A/CN.10/95);

"(c) Working paper submitted by Hungary (A/CN.10/98);

"(d) Working paper submitted by India (A/CN.10/100);

"(e) Working paper submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/CN.10/103);

"(f) Working paper submitted by China (A/CN.10/118);

"(g) Working paper submitted by Nigeria (A/CN.10/124);

"(h) Working paper submitted by Costa Rica (A/CN.10/125).

"4. In the course of the deliberations, the following working papers were submitted to the Working Group:

"(a) Chairman's draft report of Working Group III  
(A/CN.10/1989/WG.III/CRP.1/Rev.6);

"(b) Chairman's draft report of Working Group III  
(A/CN.10/1990/WG.III/CRP.1 and Rev.1-8);

"(c) Working paper submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/CN.10/1990/WG.III/CRP.2).

"5. The Working Group met under the chairmanship of Ambassador Skjold G. Mellbin (Denmark) and held 16 meetings between 8 and 29 May 1990. Mr. Timur G. Alasaniya of the Department for Disarmament Affairs served as Secretary of the Working Group. The Working Group also conducted a number of informal consultations through the Chairman during this period.

"6. In accordance with the decision of the Disarmament Commission made at its 143rd plenary meeting on 7 May, Working Group III, at its 16th meeting, on 29 May, decided to conclude the item and adopted by consensus the following text:

'1. The Working Group recalled the priorities in disarmament established by the General Assembly in the Final Document of its Tenth Special Session, the first special session devoted to disarmament, as stated in paragraph 45, namely: nuclear weapons; other weapons of mass destruction, including chemical weapons; conventional weapons, including any which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects; and reduction of armed forces. As stated in paragraph 46 of the Final Document, nothing should preclude States from conducting negotiations on all priority items concurrently. The Group took into account the principles derived from the Final Document which provided the perspective on and addressed the subjects of the conventional arms race and conventional disarmament as identified in paragraph 8 of the Study on Conventional Disarmament (A/39/348).

'2. In dealing with the subject-matter before it in the context established in paragraph 4 above, the Group recalled that since the Second World War there has been a large number of armed conflicts fought with conventional weapons. It was noted that certain conflicts continue and pose a threat to regional and global peace and security. The Group, however, took account of the recent overall amelioration in the international situation and the trend towards the peaceful settlement of various regional conflicts, the important role played in that regard by the United Nations and the possible positive implications of these developments for efforts related to disarmament.

'3. Attention was given to recent developments in relation to Europe, which has the highest concentration of arms and armed forces. The successful conclusion in January 1989 of the CSCE Follow-up Meeting in Vienna led to further negotiations in the field of confidence- and security-building measures as well as the new Negotiation on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, both within the framework of the CSCE process.

The Group, recalling General Assembly resolutions 41/86 L, 43/75 P and 44/116 I, welcomed the progress made and considered that positive results in these negotiations would serve to improve security and develop co-operation in Europe, thereby contributing to international peace and security in the world as a whole.

'4. Attention was also given to the agreement in 1987 between Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador on a procedure for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America and subsequent declarations and agreements, which include important steps towards disarmament. The Group welcomed these declarations and agreements which would serve to promote security and develop co-operation in the region. They constitute an important contribution to international peace and security.

'5. The Group identified a number of issues and possible measures in the field of conventional arms reductions and disarmament which are set out below.

'6. The accumulation and increasing sophistication of conventional arms in various regions of the world, particularly by those States with the largest military arsenals, have grave implications for international peace and security. Agreements or other measures in the field of conventional disarmament therefore should be resolutely pursued on a bilateral, regional and multilateral basis, due account being taken of paragraph 83 of the Final Document. Whereas States with the largest military arsenals have a special responsibility in pursuing the process of conventional disarmament, it is incumbent upon all States, while taking into account the need to protect their security and maintain necessary defensive capabilities, to intensify their efforts and take, either on their own or by agreement, appropriate steps in the field of conventional disarmament that would enhance peace and security in their regions as well as globally and contribute to overall progress towards the goal of general and complete disarmament.

'7. The limitation and reduction of conventional arms and armed forces could relate to weapons and manpower, and include their deployment. The objective of conventional disarmament measures should be undiminished or increased security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces. Weapons and equipment which are the subject of conventional forces reductions agreements should not be transferred, directly or indirectly, to States not party to the agreement in question. The principal method of dealing with such reductions should be destruction.

'8. The States members of two major military alliances have made progress towards an early agreement on substantial reduction of their conventional armed forces in Europe; they are urged to continue their intensive efforts to this end in order to fulfil the mandate of their negotiations which is to achieve increased security at lower levels of forces and to eliminate the capability for surprise attack and large-scale offensive action.

'9. In relation to negotiations on conventional disarmament, conscious of paragraph 83 of the Final Document of SSOD I, States should take into

account a number of factors, such as: circumstances prevailing in a particular region; the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the forces which are the subject of negotiations; the importance of a basis of comparable data; asymmetries that might exist among various countries as a result of historical, geographical and other factors; the need to eliminate military asymmetries which are prejudicial to security; the need of States to protect their security, bearing in mind the inherent right of self-defence and the right of peoples to self-determination and independence; the various significant implications of military strategies; the need to take steps to eliminate the capability for surprise attack and offensive action; and the implications of arms transfers.

'10. Although negotiations should be undertaken to facilitate and achieve substantial disarmament, and ultimately general and complete disarmament, unilateral measures could be taken in order to enhance regional and global peace and security.

'11. Taking into consideration the progress accomplished in the field of conventional disarmament, the important role of efforts at disarmament on a regional scale must be recognized. The regional approach to disarmament is one of the essential elements in global efforts. Regional disarmament measures should be taken at the initiative and with the participation of States concerned and must take into account the specific characteristics of each region. In regions where tensions may be high and a potential for conflict may exist, measures aimed at reducing tensions could lead to reductions and restrictions on military deployments by all States concerned and thus contribute to strengthening confidence and international peace and security.

'12. Although confidence-building measures, whether military or non-military, cannot serve as a substitute for concrete disarmament measures, they can play an important role in facilitating progress towards disarmament in that they alleviate mistrust and thus enhance international co-operation and security, whether they are taken unilaterally, bilaterally or multilaterally. Consequently, the value of such measures was emphasized, it being understood that they should always be so designed as to take into account the specific situation in and characteristics of the region in question.

'13. Conventional disarmament agreements must provide for adequate and effective measures for their verification satisfactory to all parties concerned in order to create the necessary confidence and to ensure that the agreements are being observed. The Group noted that the Secretary-General, upon the request of the General Assembly and with the assistance of a group of qualified governmental experts, is undertaking an in-depth study of the role of the United Nations in the field of verification.

'14. As appropriate, negotiations on measures of conventional disarmament should also cover such types of conventional weapons as encompass radically new techniques arising from qualitative technological advances.

'15. The global expenditure on arms and armed forces, by far the largest part of which is attributable to conventional arms and armed forces, represents a massive consumption of resources for potentially destructive purposes in a stark contrast to the urgent need for social and economic development and for increased international co-operation in those fields. Reduction in military expenditure by releasing resources could, therefore, entail benefits both in the social and economic fields as well as in the political field.

'16. Arms transfers can have serious implications for conventional disarmament, as recalled in the Final Document. Arms transfers should be addressed in conjunction with the questions of maintaining international peace and security, reducing international tension, enhancing confidence, and promoting disarmament as well as social and economic development. Restraint and greater openness can help in this respect and contribute to the promotion of international peace and security. In this context, the grave consequences of illicit traffic in arms deserve substantive consideration. The Group noted that the Secretary-General, upon the request of the General Assembly and with the assistance of a group of qualified governmental experts, is undertaking an in-depth study of ways and means of promoting transparency in international transfers of conventional arms on a universal and non-discriminatory basis.

'17. Taking into account the priorities in disarmament set out in the Final Document, the subject of conventional disarmament should continue to be actively pursued in the United Nations as one significant contribution to the endeavours of the international community towards general and complete disarmament under effective international control. In addition to deliberations by the Disarmament Commission on how to facilitate the process of conventional disarmament, it would be welcome if the Conference on Disarmament were to address the issue of conventional disarmament when practicable. The United Nations should be kept duly informed of developments in disarmament efforts outside its aegis, without prejudice to the progress of negotiations.'"

35. The report of Working Group IV on agenda item 9 reads as follows:

"Report of Working Group IV on agenda item 9

"1. The General Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, adopted resolution 44/119 H of 15 December 1989, in which, inter alia, it directed the Disarmament Commission to finalize the preparation of elements of a draft resolution to be entitled 'Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade' and to submit them to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session for consideration and adoption.

"2. The Disarmament Commission, at its 143rd meeting, on 7 May 1990, decided to establish Working Group IV to deal with agenda item 9 regarding the 'Consideration of the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade', pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/119 H.

"3. In connection with its work, the Working Group had before it the following documents:

"(a) Consideration of the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade (A/CN.10/115 and Add.1-4);

"(b) Consideration of the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade: recommendation of the basic elements of the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade: working paper submitted by China (A/CN.10/116);

"(c) Consideration of the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade: working paper submitted by Nigeria (A/CN.10/122);

"(d) Consideration of the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade: elements for inclusion in a draft resolution on the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade: working paper submitted by Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic and Poland (A/CN.10/123);

"(e) Consideration of the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade: working paper submitted by Costa Rica (A/CN.10/126);

"(f) Consideration of the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade: working paper submitted by India (A/CN.10/128);

"(g) Consideration of the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade: working paper submitted by Canada (A/CN.10/135).

"4. The Working Group met under the chairmanship of Ambassador Emek Ayo Azikiwe (Nigeria) and held 11 meetings between 9 and 24 May 1990. Mr. Tsutomu Ishiguri of the Department for Disarmament Affairs served as Secretary of the Working Group.

"5. In order to expedite the work, the Working Group decided to take working paper A/CN.10/135 entitled "Consideration of the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade" as a working basis. In the course of examining the working paper, the Working Group identified both areas of agreement and other areas which need to be further considered.

"6. At its 5th meeting, on 15 May 1990, the Chairman of Working Group IV prepared and circulated a conference room paper (A/CN.10/1990/WG.IV/CRP.1) entitled "Draft declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade", which took into account the views and comments expressed by delegations during the examination of working paper A/CN.10/135.

"7. At its 6th meeting, on 17 May, the Chairman of Working Group IV circulated another conference room paper (A/CN.10/1990/WG.IV/CRP.2), reflecting the result of the informal consultations having taken place on 16 May.

"8. At its 8th meeting, on 21 May, the Chairman of Working Group IV circulated yet another conference room paper (A/CN.10/1990/WG.IV/CRP.3) for consideration by the Working Group. In that document, the Chairman registered the convergence of views on most of the text and tried to focus on a few remaining issues.

"9. At its 11th meeting, on 24 May, the Chairman of Working Group IV presented a conference room paper (A/CN.10/1990/WG.IV/CRP.4), which with minor further amendments was accepted as a draft declaration.

"10. In accordance with the decision of the Disarmament Commission made at its 143rd plenary meeting, on 7 May, Working Group IV, at its 11th meeting, on 24 May, decided to conclude the consideration of the item and adopted by consensus the text as follows:

'Draft declaration of the 1990s as the Third  
Disarmament Decade

'1. The present Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade is addressed to the global community, and deals with the hopes and aspirations of people for lasting peace and security.

'2. After a period of heightened tensions, the latter part of the decade of the 1980s saw a noticeable improvement in the way many States conducted their relations with one another. Despite this favourable trend, the specific goals of the Second Disarmament Decade were not fully realized.

'3. In a world of growing interdependence, it is essential for the international community to stimulate and deepen awareness of the common interests of the global society and of the universal interest in achieving disarmament and strengthening international peace and security. The challenges facing the international community today are enormous. Accordingly, the solution of these difficult and complex issues will require the political will of States in conducting dialogue and negotiations and in promoting international co-operation, including confidence-building measures aimed at reducing tensions and the risk of military confrontation among States, bearing in mind specific conditions prevailing in the region concerned. It will also require acknowledgement of the profound interrelationship of questions relating to disarmament, social and economic development and environmental protection.

'4. The international community stands on common ground in determining to make progress in the 1990s by resolutely pursuing disarmament along with other efforts necessary for attaining genuine peace and security. As members of the international community, we have identified the following common goals. In the nuclear field, we must continue urgently to seek early reductions in, and the eventual elimination of, nuclear weapons and work towards a comprehensive nuclear-test ban. To achieve the objective of non-proliferation in all its aspects, all States are encouraged to make every effort further to strengthen the non-proliferation régime and other measures to halt and prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The aim of the international community should be to promote co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy on a non-discriminatory basis and under agreed and appropriate international safeguards. The prevention of an arms race in outer space remains an important area to be further addressed. Many States also see the need to address naval confidence-building measures

and disarmament issues. In the conventional field, we must seek reductions in arms and armed forces in all areas of the world and, in particular, where levels of concentrations of armaments are highest. In this regard, we urgently seek the successful conclusion of the negotiations on conventional forces in Europe. We aim for continued consideration of arms transfers in all their aspects. In the chemical field, we must work for the earliest conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction. The international community also calls for strict compliance with the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925. 4/ As further steps forward, openness and transparency on all appropriate military matters should be developed, the scope and techniques of verification advanced, the use of science and technology for peaceful purposes promoted and non-military threats to security addressed. All other initiatives to halt and reverse the arms race, in particular the nuclear-arms race, in both its qualitative and quantitative aspects deserve careful consideration. Such initiatives include the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the region concerned and the creation of zones of peace under appropriate conditions defined and determined freely by the States concerned in the zone. In the pursuit of the foregoing goals, the international community acknowledges the particular responsibility of countries with the largest military arsenals. Resources freed through disarmament could be used for the benefit of a balanced world development. These goals should be included in a comprehensive programme of disarmament, which should be concluded at an appropriate time.

'5. The United Nations will continue to foster multilateral co-operation for disarmament, wherein bilateral and regional efforts can be complementary and mutually supportive in attaining the purposes and principles of the United Nations. The international community can further promote disarmament through the United Nations by building upon its achievements in this field, including the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly (resolution S-10/2), which was adopted by consensus.

'6. The international community affirms the positive role that an informed public can play in the process of disarmament by promoting a constructive and realistic dialogue on issues related to disarmament. In this regard, the pursuit of the World Disarmament Campaign and the observance of Disarmament Week will continue to play a useful role. Reflecting a growing understanding and commitment in dealing with the global problems of peace and security, it recognizes that non-governmental organizations play an invaluable role. It also supports an enhanced role for women in developing the conditions for enduring peace.

'7. As the world moves towards the twenty-first century, it is evident that future generations will need increasing knowledge and understanding of the interdependent nature of life on the planet. Education on international peace and security issues will play a fundamental part in

allowing every individual to realize his or her role as a responsible member of the world community."

36. The report of the Consultation Group on agenda item 10 reads as follows:

"Report of the Consultation Group on agenda item 10

"1. The General Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, adopted resolution 44/116 E of 15 December 1989, in which, inter alia, it requested the Disarmament Commission to include in the agenda of its 1990 session an item entitled 'Objective information on military matters'.

"2. The Disarmament Commission, at its 143rd meeting, on 7 May 1990, decided:

'A consultation group will be established for item 10 regarding objective information on military matters during the 1990 substantive session with the understanding that objective information on military matters, as well as all other substantive issues on the working agenda, should be given in-depth consideration during the 1991 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission;

'The time-frame for consideration of item 10 should be in the first half of the 1990 substantive session, i.e. the group should not hold any meeting after Wednesday, 16 May;

'It is understood that consideration of item 10 will be at the preliminary stage during the 1990 substantive session, not engaging in any negotiation on a text of the subject;

'The candidate for the chairmanship of the consultation group will be the representative of Austria.'

"3. The Consultation Group met under the chairmanship of Ambassador Peter Hohenfellner (Austria) and held seven meetings between 10 and 16 May 1990. Mr. Lin Kuo-Chung of the Department for Disarmament Affairs served as Secretary of the Consultation Group.

"4. In carrying out its work, the Consultation Group had before it the report of the Secretary-General containing the views of Member States on the subject (A/44/396 and Add.1 and 2) and other working papers submitted by Member States as follows:

"(a) Working paper submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/CN.10/140);

"(b) Working paper submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/142).

"5. At the beginning of the 1st meeting, the Chairman of the Group made a substantive introductory statement. The first two meetings were dedicated to an exchange of general views on the subject in which a large number of delegations participated.

"6. Subsequently, the Group proceeded to a discussion of the following topics related to the subject-matter, according to a structure proposed by the Chairman of the Group:

"The meaning and significance of objective information on military matters as related to international security and disarmament;

"The meaning of the terms 'military matters', 'military capabilities' and 'military activities';

"The fields or areas of military matters which could be covered by a possible exchange of information;

"The global and the regional dimensions of the subject, including the question of a possible global and/or regional application of an exchange of information on military matters;

"The possible role of the United Nations, its regional centres for peace and disarmament and other regional organizations in the context of an exchange of information on military matters;

"The advisability of a future elaboration of a set of principles, guidelines or recommendations on objective information on military matters;

"The parameters which should govern a possible exchange of information on military matters.

"7. At its last substantive meeting, held on 16 May 1990, a number of delegations made concluding statements. At the end of the meeting, the Chairman of the Consultation Group also made a concluding statement.

"8. At its 8th meeting, on 24 May 1990, the Consultation Group adopted the present report to the Disarmament Commission by consensus."

#### Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/44/42).

2/ General Assembly resolution S-10/2.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/44/27).

4/ League of Nations, Treaty Series, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138.

## ANNEX I

### Compilation of proposals for recommendations on agenda item 4

#### Recommendation No. 1

All States Members of the United Nations should reaffirm their full commitment to the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and should strictly observe its principles as well as other relevant and generally accepted principles of international law relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, in particular, the principles of refraining from the threat or use of force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or against peoples under colonial or foreign domination seeking to exercise their right to self-determination and to achieve independence; non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States; the inviolability of international frontiers; and the peaceful settlement of disputes, having regard to the inherent right of States to individual and collective self-defence in accordance with the Charter.

#### Recommendation No. 2

All States are urged to contribute effectively to the strengthening of the central role and primary responsibility of the United Nations in the field of disarmament. Since the process of disarmament affects the vital security interests of all States, they must all be actively concerned with and contribute to the measures of disarmament and arms limitation, which have an essential part to play in maintaining and strengthening international security.

While disarmament is the responsibility of all States, the nuclear-weapon States have the primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament and, together with other militarily significant States, for halting and reversing the arms race.

Everything possible should be done to enable the Conference on Disarmament, which is a single multilateral negotiating body in the field of disarmament, to fulfil its responsibilities by the negotiation and adoption of concrete measures of disarmament to promote effectively the attainment of general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

## I

#### Recommendation No. 3

In order to implement the recommendations and decisions contained in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament (resolution S-10/2), all States, particularly nuclear-weapon States and especially those among them which possess the most important nuclear arsenals, should urgently engage in negotiations to fulfil the priority tasks set forth in its Programme of Action.

Negotiations of agreements in conformity with paragraph 50 of the Final Document with a view to halting and reversing the nuclear-arms race and bringing about as soon as possible the achievement of the final objective defined therein,

namely, the ultimate and complete elimination of nuclear weapons, should be intensified or, as appropriate, urgently initiated.

Negotiations, in appropriate forums, to achieve reductions in weapons, in particular nuclear weapons, as well as other measures in the disarmament field, should be pursued and agreements concluded in accordance with paragraphs 29 and 31 of the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

#### Recommendation No. 4

The Disarmament Commission considers as an important step in strengthening international peace and security the agreement reached at Geneva in November 1985 at the summit meeting of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to accelerate the work at the negotiations between them on nuclear and space arms, with a view to accomplishing the tasks set out in the joint communiqué of 8 January 1985 of the Soviet Union and the United States, namely, to prevent an arms race in space and to terminate it on Earth, to limit and reduce nuclear arms and enhance strategic stability, as well as their agreement that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought, that any conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States could have catastrophic consequences, that any war between them, whether nuclear or conventional, should be prevented, and that they will not seek to achieve military superiority.

Bearing in mind that the ultimate goal of nuclear disarmament is the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, the General Assembly could encourage the realization of the common desire of negotiating parties, as expressed in the same joint statement, for early progress in areas where there is common ground, including the principle of a 50 per cent reduction in the nuclear arms of the Soviet Union and the United States appropriately applied. It is recommended that the General Assembly also take into account as further important steps the joint statements of the United States-Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of 10 December 1987 and 1 June 1988, as well as the resumption of the United States-Soviet Union Nuclear and Space Talks, resulting from the high-level United States-Soviet Union meeting at Moscow on 10 and 11 May 1989.

The Disarmament Commission considers that strict observance and full implementation of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, the very first disarmament agreement ever concluded for the elimination of an entire category of nuclear weapons, represents a valuable initial step in the reduction of nuclear weapons.

The two negotiating parties should bear constantly in mind that not only their national interests but also the vital interests of all the peoples of the world are at stake and, accordingly, should keep the General Assembly duly informed of the progress of the negotiations, without prejudice to the progress of the negotiations.

The Disarmament Commission also considers that continuation of the practice according to which the two negotiating parties also offer information on the progress in their negotiations to the Conference on Disarmament would be useful.

Bilateral and multilateral efforts for nuclear disarmament should complement and facilitate each other.

#### Recommendation No. 5

[The Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has a primary role in the negotiation of multilateral disarmament agreements. The Conference on Disarmament should fully discharge this fundamental task, in particular, and as a matter of urgency, concerning the priority items on its agenda.]

#### Recommendation No. 6

All States, in particular the major nuclear-weapon States, are urged to pursue their negotiations on arms limitations and disarmament with vigour and to keep the United Nations appropriately informed of all steps in this field, whether unilateral, bilateral, regional or multilateral, without prejudice to the progress of negotiations.

#### Recommendation No. 7

[The Conference on Disarmament should proceed without delay to negotiations on the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament and, in particular, begin the elaboration of practical measures for the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and for nuclear disarmament in accordance with paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, including a nuclear disarmament programme. Such a comprehensive, phased programme with agreed time-frames, whenever feasible, should provide for progressive and balanced reduction of stockpiles of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination. It should aim at the complete elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world by the year 2000 and could consist of three stages:

(a) A first stage of five to eight years, providing for reductions in the nuclear arsenals of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, as well as for the renunciation of the development, testing and deployment of space-strike weapons by them and a moratorium on their nuclear explosions;

(b) A second stage, which would last for five to seven years and during which the other nuclear-weapon States would take part in the nuclear disarmament process;

(c) A last stage, during which the elimination of all remaining nuclear weapons will be completed.

Verification of the destruction or limitation of nuclear weapons and delivery vehicles would be carried out by national technical means, on-site inspections and other measures.]

#### Recommendation No. 8

[A comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty prohibiting all nuclear-test explosions by all States in all environments for all time should be concluded as a matter of urgency. To this end the Conference on Disarmament should immediately proceed to the negotiations required for the conclusion of a comprehensive test-ban treaty. The issues of the verification of compliance with the agreement to be

negotiated could be considered simultaneously with the other substantive issues relating to a prohibition of nuclear tests.]

[The Disarmament Commission [further] recommends that the General Assembly acknowledge the importance of the opening, on 9 November 1987, of full-scale step-by-step negotiations between the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics which, in accordance with their joint statement of 17 September 1987, are conducted in a single forum and in which the sides, as the first step, will agree upon effective verification measures which will make it possible to ratify the United States of America-Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Threshold Test-Ban Treaty of 1974 and Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty of 1976, and proceed to negotiating further intermediate limitations on nuclear testing leading to the ultimate objective of the complete cessation of nuclear testing as part of an effective disarmament process. This process, among other things, would pursue, as the first priority, the goal of the reduction of nuclear weapons and, ultimately, their elimination.]

[Pending the conclusion of such a treaty, the nuclear-weapon States are called upon to declare a moratorium on all nuclear explosions starting from a date to be agreed among all of them. The two major nuclear-weapon States which have conducted the most nuclear explosions are called upon to stop their nuclear tests immediately.]

#### Recommendation No. 9

Every State has the duty to refrain in its international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations. Such a threat or use of force constitutes a violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations and entails international responsibility.

The recommendations Nos. 10 to 16 have been proposed taking fully into account the general applicability of recommendation No. 9.

#### Recommendation No. 10

In order to intensify the disarmament process, it should be taken into consideration that mankind today is confronted with an unprecedented threat of destruction arising from the massive and competitive accumulation of the most powerful weapons ever produced. Therefore, disarmament, in particular nuclear disarmament, should be approached as a matter of highest priority and of vital importance for humanity.

Measures for the prevention of nuclear war and for the promotion of nuclear disarmament must take into account the security interests of nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States alike.

#### Recommendation No. 11

There is today wide endorsement of the statement of the two major nuclear-weapon States that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. Pending the achievement of nuclear disarmament, all States should co-operate for the adoption of practical and appropriate measures to prevent the outbreak of a nuclear war and to avoid use of nuclear weapons. Note should be taken of existing

undertakings by two nuclear-weapon States about non-first use of nuclear weapons as well as declarations made by some States about non-use of any weapon, except in response to an armed attack.

The Disarmament Commission considers important the agreement on the establishment of nuclear risk reduction centres in Washington and Moscow, which the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, affirming their desire to reduce and ultimately eliminate the risk of outbreak of nuclear war, in particular as a result of misinterpretation, miscalculation, or accident, concluded on 15 September 1987.

[The Conference on Disarmament should undertake, as a matter of the highest priority, negotiations with a view to achieving agreement on appropriate and practical measures for the prevention of nuclear war.]

[The Security Council of the United Nations could also take up questions of nuclear disarmament and prevention of nuclear war.]

#### Recommendation No. 12

[Nuclear-weapon States should agree to a comprehensive nuclear-arms freeze, embracing testing, development and deployment of all nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, subject to appropriate and effective measures and procedures of verification. Such a freeze should be considered as a first step in halting and reversing the nuclear arms race leading to the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons. [It should begin with an immediate freeze on production of nuclear weapons and fissionable material for weapon purposes by the two States possessing the largest nuclear arsenals and should be followed by substantial reductions of existing nuclear arms.]]

[The ultimate goal of nuclear disarmament is the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons. Pending the attainment of this goal, the countries which possess the largest and most advanced nuclear arsenals in the world should take the lead in halting the test, production and deployment of all types of nuclear weapons and in drastically reducing and destroying all types of nuclear weapons they have deployed inside and outside their respective countries. After this, a broadly representative international conference on nuclear disarmament with the participation of all nuclear-weapon States can be held to discuss steps and measures towards thorough destruction of nuclear weapons.]

[The objective of nuclear disarmament should be pursued through negotiations, such as those currently under way between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, aimed at reaching agreement on mutual, balanced and effectively verifiable substantial reductions in nuclear weapons.]

#### Recommendation No. 13

[The adequately verified cessation and prohibition of the production of fissionable material for nuclear weapons would be a significant step towards halting and reversing the nuclear arms race.]

Recommendation No. 14

[All nuclear-weapon categories should be incorporated in the disarmament process.]

Recommendation No. 15

[As a measure to prevent nuclear war, pending effective measures of nuclear disarmament, all nuclear-weapon States should undertake not to be the first to use nuclear weapons at any time and under any circumstances, and to refrain from using or threatening to use such weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States and nuclear-weapon-free zones. On such a basis, an international convention should be urgently negotiated and adopted with the participation of all the nuclear-weapon States to ensure the prohibition of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.]

[In the nuclear age, it is all the more important that all States strictly observe their obligation, under the Charter of the United Nations, to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, taking into account their inherent right of individual or collective self-defence.]

Recommendation No. 16

[In view of the danger posed to all mankind by an arms race in outer space, in particular the impending danger of exacerbating the current state of insecurity by developments that could further undermine international peace and security, the Conference on Disarmament should urgently undertake negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement or agreements, as appropriate, to prevent an arms race in all its aspects in outer space.]

In order to contribute to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, the Conference on Disarmament should intensify its work in accordance with the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee set up by the Conference.

[It is understood that the establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee constitutes only a first step towards multilateral negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement or agreements, as appropriate, to prevent an arms race in all its aspects in outer space.]

Recommendation No. 17

Pending comprehensive measures of nuclear and conventional disarmament, States should continue to co-operate in the development of a comprehensive set of measures for the prevention of nuclear war and of all armed conflict. These could include a wide array of confidence-building measures, including measures relating to nuclear weapons, to be negotiated in appropriate frameworks, for regional or global application.

Recommendation No. 18

Nuclear and conventional weapons as well as military forces should be reduced in a mutual, balanced and verifiable manner, particularly in regions where their concentration has attained the most dangerous levels.

Recommendation No. 19

[The nuclear-weapon States should refrain from military manoeuvres in which nuclear energy is used for non-peaceful purposes, especially in situations where nuclear armaments are deployed in close proximity of States not possessing nuclear weapons, thus endangering their security.]

Recommendation No. 20

[Bearing in mind that the nuclear-weapon States should guarantee that non-nuclear-weapon States will not be threatened or attacked with nuclear weapons and that declarations were made in this context, negotiations should proceed for the conclusion [, as appropriate,] of effective international arrangements to assure [all] non-nuclear-weapon States [, without any discrimination,] against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.]

Recommendation No. 21

The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in different parts of the world on the basis of agreements and/or arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned constitute an important disarmament measure [and] [. Nuclear-weapon-free zones which will enhance world-wide security and stability] should be encouraged, with the ultimate objective of achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons. In the process of establishing such zones, the characteristics of [each region] [the region in question] should be taken into account. [Those agreements or arrangements should be fully complied with and the effective respect for the status of such zones by [all] [nuclear-weapon] States [concerned] should be subject to adequate [agreed] verification procedures, thus ensuring that the zones are genuinely free from nuclear weapons.]

Recommendation No. 22

[The establishment of zones of peace in various regions of the world on the basis of conditions clearly defined and determined freely by the States concerned in the zone, and in conformity with international law, can contribute to strengthening the security of States within such zones and to international peace and security as a whole. In the process of setting up such zones, the characteristics of the zone and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations should be taken into account.]

Recommendation No. 23

All States should co-operate to achieve the goal of nuclear non-proliferation which is, on the one hand, to prevent the emergence of any additional nuclear-weapon States besides the existing five nuclear-weapon States and, on the other, progressively to reduce and eventually to eliminate nuclear weapons altogether. States should fully implement all the provisions of relevant international treaties to which they are parties. Nuclear-weapon States in particular should urgently adopt effective measures for halting and reversing the nuclear-arms race.

#### Recommendation No. 24

Since the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects is a matter of universal concern, all States are jointly urged to take further steps to develop an international consensus of ways and means, on a universal and non-discriminatory basis, to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

#### Recommendation No. 25

[In conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, security policies of States should have a defensive character, reflected in the structure and level of armed forces, taking into account the characteristics of each region, thus contributing to global international security.]

## II

#### Introductory sentence

While nuclear disarmament has the highest priority, the following recommendations on other priority measures of disarmament should be pursued together with nuclear disarmament negotiations.

#### Recommendation No. 1

All efforts should be exerted for the continuation and successful conclusion of negotiations on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction. To this end, the Conference on Disarmament should, as a matter of high priority, intensify the negotiations on such a convention and reinforce further its efforts with a view to the final elaboration of a convention at the earliest possible date.

In this regard, the importance of the Final Declaration of the 1989 Paris Conference of States parties to the 1925 Geneva Protocol and other interested States was emphasized.

#### Recommendation No. 2

Conventional disarmament should be resolutely pursued on a bilateral, regional and multilateral basis in accordance with paragraph 83 of the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament within the framework of progress towards general and complete disarmament. The qualitative aspects of the conventional arms race need to be addressed along with its quantitative aspects.

In this connection, the countries with the largest military arsenals, which bear a special responsibility in pursuing the process of conventional armaments reductions, and the member States of the two major military alliances are urged to continue negotiations through various forums on conventional disarmament in earnest, with a view to reaching early agreement on the limitation and gradual reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons under effective international control in their respective regions, particularly in Europe, which has the largest concentration of arms and forces in the world. In this respect, the United Nations Disarmament Commission welcomes the start of negotiations on conventional armed

forces in Europe and the continuation of negotiations on confidence-security-building measures in Europe.

All States, while taking into account the need to protect security and maintain necessary defensive capabilities, are encouraged to intensify their efforts and take, either on their own or in a regional context, appropriate steps to promote progress in conventional disarmament and enhance peace and security.

Regional disarmament measures should be taken at the initiative and with the participation of all the States concerned and must take into account the specific conditions characteristic of each region. Disarmament efforts in a region cannot be isolated either from the disarmament efforts in other regions or from global disarmament efforts both in the nuclear and conventional field.

#### Recommendation No. 3

[[An arms race in outer space should be prevented. In this context, the Disarmament Commission welcomes the recent decision taken by the Conference on Disarmament, namely:

"In the exercise of its responsibilities as the multilateral disarmament negotiating forum in accordance with paragraph 120 of the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, the Conference on Disarmament decides to re-establish an Ad Hoc Committee under item 5 of its agenda entitled 'Prevention of an arms race in outer space'.

"The Conference requests the Ad Hoc Committee, in discharging that responsibility, to continue to examine, and to identify, through substantive and general consideration, issues relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

"The Ad Hoc Committee, in carrying out this work, will take into account all existing agreements, existing proposals and future initiatives as well as developments which have taken place since the establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, in 1985, and report on the progress of its work to the Conference on Disarmament before the end of its 1987 session."

[Consequently, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee constitutes only a first step towards the urgent initiation of multilateral negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement or agreements, as appropriate, to prevent an arms race in all its aspects in outer space.]]

#### Recommendation No. 4

In order to create favourable conditions for success in the disarmament process, all States should strictly abide by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as other relevant and generally accepted principles of international law relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, refrain from actions which might adversely affect efforts in the field of disarmament, and display a constructive approach to negotiations and the political will to reach agreements. The climate of confidence among nations would be significantly improved with agreements on measures for halting the arms race and effective reductions of armaments leading to their complete elimination. The objective at each stage of this process of disarmament should be undiminished security at the lowest possible level of armaments.

Recommendation No. 5

In the context of the World Disarmament Campaign measures should be adopted in order that the public in all regions of the world has access to a broad range of objective information and opinions on questions of arms limitation and disarmament, and the dangers relating to all aspects of the arms race and war, in particular nuclear war, to facilitate informed choices about these vital questions concerning efforts to halt and reverse the arms race. Such a campaign should promote public interest in and support for the goals described above and in particular for the reaching of agreements on measures of arms limitation and disarmament with a view to achieving the goal of general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

## ANNEX II

### Chairman's paper on agenda item 7: Naval armaments and disarmament

1. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly by resolution 44/116 M of 15 December 1989, entitled "Naval armaments and disarmament", inter alia, requested the Disarmament Commission to continue, at its forthcoming session in 1990, the substantive consideration of the question and to report on its deliberations and recommendations to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

2. In its consideration of the item, the Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General containing the study on the naval arms race (A/40/535);

(b) Study on the naval arms race - replies received from Governments (Argentina, Bulgaria, China, Indonesia, Lesotho, Mexico and Sweden - A/CN.10/77; Australia and Norway - Add.1; Gabon - Add.2; Denmark, Netherlands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - Add.3);

(c) Working paper submitted by China (A/CN.10/78);

(d) Working paper submitted by Bulgaria, German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/80);

(e) Chairman's paper on agenda item 8 (A/CN.10/83);

(f) Working paper submitted by Finland (A/CN.10/90/Rev.1);

(g) Working paper submitted by Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/92);

(h) Working paper submitted by Sweden (A/CN.10/101/Rev.1);

(i) Chairman's paper on agenda item 8 (A/CN.10/102);

(j) Working paper submitted by Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/109);

(k) Chairman's paper on agenda item 8 (A/CN.10/113);

(l) Working paper submitted by Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/119);

(m) Working paper submitted by Sweden (A/CN.10/121);

(n) Working paper submitted by Sweden (A/CN.10/129);

(o) Working paper submitted by Finland, Indonesia and Sweden (A/CN.10/130);

(p) Chairman's paper on agenda item 8 (A/CN.10/134);

(q) Working paper submitted by Finland, Indonesia and Sweden (A/CN.10/139);

(r) Working paper submitted by Sweden (A/CN.10/141).

3. At its 143rd plenary meeting, on 7 May 1990, the Chairman of the Disarmament Commission decided to follow last year's course of action and hold, under his responsibility, substantive and open-ended consultations on the subject. Pursuant to that decision, the Chairman delegated the actual conduct of the substantive and open-ended consultations to a "friend of the Chairman", in casu, the representative of Indonesia, Ambassador Nugroho Wisnumurti. The Consultation Group held 13 meetings on the item. Mr. Lin Kuo-Chung of the Department for Disarmament Affairs served as Secretary of the Consultation Group and Ms. Florence Lee from the same Department acted as Deputy Secretary.

4. In the course of the consultations participants continued their consideration of various aspects of the question including the possibility of measures of naval arms limitation and disarmament, as well as the desirability of applying confidence-building measures at sea.

5. Participants reaffirmed that the significant elements and principles that had been identified in the papers arising from the consultations held in 1986, 1987, 1988 and 1989 (A/CN.10/83, A/CN.10/102, A/CN.10/113 and A/CN.10/134 respectively) remained valid and provided a good basis for further consideration of the subject. It was acknowledged that, as stated in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session, in the task of achieving the goals of nuclear disarmament, all nuclear-weapon States, in particular those among them which possess the most important nuclear arsenals, bore a special responsibility, and that States with the largest military arsenals also had a special responsibility in pursuing the process of conventional arms reductions: these principles applied also to the naval dimension of the global arms race and related issues.

6. It was recognized that, as stated in the study on the naval arms race, naval forces are not independent of other military forces and that they should be considered in their general military context. There is no such thing as an independent naval balance or parity. By the same token, the reduction of naval nuclear forces and naval non-nuclear forces falls within the framework of nuclear and conventional disarmament respectively, and therefore should follow the general approaches of nuclear and conventional disarmament efforts. In the event that bilateral, regional or multilateral negotiations relating to naval nuclear forces and naval non-nuclear forces are conducted, such negotiations should take into account, inter alia, the following:

(a) The level of naval forces of all countries should not exceed the reasonable need for defence;

(b) Naval forces should be considered in their general military context with a view to enhancing security and stability at the lowest overall balanced level of forces and armaments;

(c) The geographically different situations of States could require different and, where appropriate, asymmetrical measures for naval forces and weapons;

(d) Such measures should be embodied in legal instruments, as appropriate, in harmony with general principles of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations.

7. The present international situation is characterized by progress in the negotiations in the European context, affecting mainly conventional weapons, and encompassing primarily land and air forces as agreed by the parties. In addition to this the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America are actively conducting negotiations to reduce their strategic nuclear armaments, including sea-borne strategic nuclear weapons. Consequently, naval forces could become relatively more significant in the general military context and in the overall military balance.

8. In this context, the widening of the spectrum of negotiations to involve also certain naval nuclear and conventional forces could contribute to further progress in enhancing international peace and security as well as to the promotion and consolidation of détente. This would also be desirable in order to ensure that progress achieved in agreements involving land and/or air forces - conventional as well as nuclear - is not circumvented by the developments in the naval field. In this connection, the stabilizing value of some naval forces in a global context was stressed by a number of delegations.

9. The qualitative improvements in range, mobility, firepower and flexible use of modern weapon systems have underscored the interdependence of naval, air and land-based forces in so far as military stability requires the elimination of capabilities for surprise attack and for large-scale offensive action. From a military point of view it remains valid not to consider these forces as separate categories of an overall military balance. This is a factor of importance for the security of all States and in particular coastal States.

10. It was observed that the enhancement of nuclear weapons deployed at sea and the geographical dispersion of such weapons, as well as linking of all weapons systems in the different environments, have given an important dimension to the question of naval weapons, especially considering that a significant proportion of the world's strategic and tactical nuclear capability is deployed at sea.

11. Some positive developments in the naval armaments and disarmament were noted:

(a) Sea-borne strategic nuclear weapons are the subject of negotiations between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Both countries have also decided to phase out some categories of sea-borne nuclear weapons;

(b) In the Stockholm Document and in the current Vienna negotiations on confidence- and security-building measures in Europe, some naval activities are taken into consideration in so far as they are directly related to notifiable activities taking place within the whole of Europe.

12. In addition to these endeavours, greater efforts by the world's leading naval powers to halt and reverse the naval arms race, particularly in its nuclear dimension, would be useful. The short- and intermediate-range sea-borne nuclear-weapons could be further addressed at negotiations. The widespread deployment of sea-based nuclear armed cruise missiles could become the subject of

negotiations. Such efforts should significantly contribute to the promotion of international peace and security.

13. There was concurrence of view that, at this stage, confidence-building measures of various kinds, both in the global and the regional context, would be more amenable to further consideration and possible negotiation in the appropriate forums. It was recognized that a fundamental feature of the global maritime environment, both military and non-military, was freedom of navigation and that naval confidence-building measures should be in harmony with current law of the sea. In accordance with international law, freedom of navigation and other rights of maritime navigation should not be exercised in any manner prejudicial to the security of the coastal States.

14. In this regard, suggestions of initiatives that might be of relevance included: extension of existing confidence-building measures to seas and oceans, especially to areas with the busiest sea-lanes; notification of major naval activities; the invitation of observers to naval exercises or manoeuvres; limitations on the number or scale of naval exercises in specific regions; exchange of information on naval matters; a better flow of objective information on naval capabilities; greater openness and transparency on naval matters in general; strict observance of existing maritime measures which can or are designed to build confidence; rules guiding naval activities when in conflict with civilian activities, in accordance with the current law of the sea; and steps to ensure respect for existing international law with regard to the rights of vessels belonging to States neutral to a conflict. Different views were expressed.

15. The experience gained from bilateral agreements on the prevention of incidents at sea beyond territorial sea is encouraging. It was proposed that the possibility should be pursued of negotiating a multilateral agreement concerning the prevention of incidents at sea beyond the territorial sea in addition to existing agreements. This proposal made at the 1989 session of the Disarmament Commission for a multilateral agreement on the prevention of incidents at sea (A/CN.10/129) was the subject of further consideration. According to such a proposal any multilateral agreement of this nature should respond to the needs of all interested nations for enhancing safety at sea without diminishing the traditional freedom of navigation. Other delegations considered that bilateral agreements of a technical nature constituted the appropriate approach in this regard.

16. A number of participants highlighted the benefits to be derived from the maritime aspects of existing proposals for nuclear-weapon-free zones and zones of peace in certain regions, together with recent developments such as the declaration by the General Assembly of a zone of peace and co-operation in the South Atlantic. In this context, verification of compliance with obligations of the treaties or other instruments establishing such zones is necessary. It was felt in this connection that the establishment of such zones should be in conformity with the principles of the law of the sea, including the freedom of navigation on the high seas. The varying positions of participants on this issue were noted.

17. Further discussion took place on the issue of the practicability of updating some of the existing laws of sea warfare. In this connection, specific mention was made of the possibility of updating the Hague Convention VIII of 1907 on Laying of Automatic Submarine Contact Mines, and the possibility of further work on the development of international law concerning exclusion zones with particular reference to the safety of non-belligerent vessels engaged in peaceful maritime

activities. It was noted that these issues need extensive consideration in the appropriate forums. In this connection, it was suggested that a protocol on the use of sea mines (A/CN.10/141) be added to the existing body of international law. One possibility in this context is an additional protocol to the 1981 Convention on Prohibitions for Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects. Some delegations believed existing arrangements sufficient.

18. It was recognized that the harmful effects that conflict at sea could have on the freedom of navigation and other uses of the sea, in accordance with current international law, for States neutral to or otherwise not involved in an ongoing conflict, have been amply demonstrated in recent years. The maintenance of freedom of navigation and other uses of the sea is an important objective for all States neutral to or otherwise not involved in such conflicts. The view was expressed that in order to secure the freedom of navigation, concrete future measures could include the establishment, when necessary and in accordance with existing practices, of a naval element in United Nations peace-keeping operations either alone or integrated with land and air forces. It was also suggested that, as an initial step towards exploring such a possibility, a special study could be carried out by the Military Staff Committee. Some delegations felt that such a study should not be conducted.

19. The enhancement of nuclear weapons deployed at sea and the geographical dispersion of such weapons have given rise to mounting concern on the part of many States. It was recognized that most strategic nuclear weapons are already the subject of certain bilateral negotiations. Many delegations expressed the view that early consideration should be given by States to effective measures towards the prohibition of all nuclear weapons on all ships, whether surface vessels or submarines, other than those specifically designated by agreement without undermining the defence and security needs of the States concerned. It was recalled by other delegations, however, that such negotiations and measures should not be seen in isolation from the general military context.

20. It was suggested by several delegations that, in order to enhance security and openness, the practice of nuclear-weapon States of neither confirming nor denying the presence or absence of nuclear weapons on board any particular ship at any particular time should be abandoned. Other delegations considered such a practice essential to their States' security and to strategic stability.

21. By potentially posing a threat to the marine environment, nuclear-powered vessels present particular problems. Several reported accidents involving nuclear-propelled submarines have led to proposals to extend the existing arrangements whether national, bilateral or multilateral concerning the notification of nuclear accidents to include accidents with nuclear-powered military vessels in international waters also when these accidents do not have transboundary effects. In addition, some delegations expressed the view that safety guidelines for sea-borne nuclear reactors could be considered. It was thus proposed that efforts to achieve progress in the military field should therefore be co-ordinated with efforts to eliminate potential ecological hazards at sea. Some delegations believed that this subject, while important, should not be considered in the context of disarmament. Other delegations suggested that vessels carrying nuclear weapons also present a potential problem to the marine environment.

22. It was noted that great attention had recently been devoted by the General Assembly to the need for openness and transparency in military matters as reflected, inter alia, in resolutions on objective information on military matters. The following suggestions were made by several delegations:

(a) Measures to increase openness and transparency concerning the navigation of vessels carrying nuclear and conventional weapons should be considered;

(b) The possibilities for exchange of information and greater openness concerning naval military structures, doctrines and major activities, including amphibious operations and joint operations of land, air and/or naval forces, should be further explored, drawing on experiences gathered, inter alia, within the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe;

(c) The possibilities of sharing information gathered through observation by satellites or other observation means over international waters, inter alia, in the framework of appropriate agreements, could be further studied by the participating States separately as well as in conjunction with similar projects involving national territories;

(d) The possibilities of using the United Nations standardized reporting system for military budgets to share information concerning naval forces could be further explored by the participating States.

23. During the course of discussion, many delegations suggested the elaboration of a reliable system of verification and openness in the naval sphere for agreements on confidence-building at sea and on the limitation and reduction of naval armaments. Some delegations suggested that appropriate measures for the verification could include the use of national technical means, measures based on co-operation, on-site inspections and an international verification mechanism under United Nations auspices. Other delegations highlighted the difficulty of establishing an effective verification régime for surface and sub-surface naval vessels.

24. In order to put the naval issues on a practical track, some delegations suggested that it would be useful to prepare an updated United Nations study on naval problems. Other delegations considered it not justified at present.

25. An exchange of views took place on a number of possible objectives and possible measures. Among the objectives and measures mentioned by many participants were:

(a) Strengthening peace, security and stability at a lower level of forces, taking into account the need for States to protect their security;

(b) Substantial reduction of naval forces, including their nuclear and non-nuclear arms by major naval Powers;

(c) Particular attention to armaments possessing the most pronounced offensive capability;

(d) Reversal of the geographical spread of nuclear weapons and nuclear-powered vessels on the seas and oceans;

(e) Peace-time security in relation to activities by military forces of many States operating at sea to avoid incidents and confrontation;

(f) Security for non-military activities at sea, such as shipping, fishing, off-shore activities;

(g) Seaboard security, i.e., security of coastal States against threats and military power projection;

(h) Non-aggression and non-interference in internal affairs of other countries by all States, in particular major naval Powers;

(i) War-time security at sea of vessels belonging to States neutral to a conflict;

(j) Effective and relevant confidence- and security-building as well as naval disarmament measures.

Varying views were expressed on these matters.

26. It was suggested that consultations between interested States on matters related to naval armaments and disarmament could be a means of paving the way to international negotiations in the field of confidence-building at sea and naval disarmament.

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